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AVENGERS

MUCH AMOK!

TM

AVENGERS® ASSEMBLE!

30TH™

30 YEARS
1963-1993

SPACE.

MOST OF OUR UNIVERSE IS MADE UP OF EMPTY SPACE.

MORE THAN NINETY PERCENT OF ALL REALITY IS NOTHINGNESS.

IN THE VAST EXPANSES BETWEEN STAR SYSTEMS YOU CAN GO FOR MILLIONS OF MILES WITHOUT DETECTING SO MUCH AS A SINGLE ATOM.

AND YET WITHIN THIS COLD INHOSPITABLE VOID WE CALL THE UNIVERSE, A FEW SPARKS OF LIFE HAVE SPRUNG UP, IMPROBABLY SMALL, IMPROBABLY FAR APART.

BUT LET ALL LIFE BEWARE. THE UNIVERSE TAKES NO PITY ON THOSE WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE SAFE CONFINES OF THE WORLDS THEY CALL HOME.

WHERE IN THE BLEEPING UNIVERSE AM I?!?

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WENDELL VAUGHN . . . THE FIRST EARTH MAN EVER APPOINTED PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE. BONDED TO THE ENERGY-TRANSFORMING QUANTUM-BANDS THAT ARE BOTH WEAPONS AND SYMBOLS OF HIS STATION, HE FIGHTS AN ONGOING BATTLE TO DEFEND ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE FROM COSMIC EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS . . .

QUASAR

ARRRRRRGH!

AFTER *ALL* I'VE BEEN THROUGH... HAULED BACK TO EARTH TO FIGHT IN THE WAR WITH THE *MAGUS*...

...GIVEN THE *ULTIMATE NULLIFIER* TO DO HIM IN...

...*NULLIFIED* MYSELF, OR A CLOSE APPROXIMATION OF SAME...

...FORCED INTO A DUEL WITH A PERSONIFICATION OF *DEATH*...

...STRIPPED OF MY *QUANTUM-BANDS*...

...FINALLY MAKING MY WAY BACK TO THE *REAL UNIVERSE*, STILL MINUS MY QUANTUM-BANDS...*

...FORCED TO BATTLE MY *PREDECESSOR*...

...AND NOW I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I *AM* OR HOW TO GET BACK TO *EARTH*!

*SEE THE PAST ;ULP!; SEVEN ISSUES!--MIKE

MUCK AMOK

OKAY. ENOUGH WITH THE *TEMPER TANTRUMS*. LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS CALMLY AND RATIONALLY.

FACT: I DON'T HAVE MY *QUANTUM-BANDS*. IF I HAD THEM, I COULD USE THE STARMAP TEMPLATE TO FIND MY *SPATIAL COORDINATES*...

...OR CALL UP MY LITTLE PAL, *EPOCH*, AND *ASK* HER HOW TO GET HOME FROM HERE.

FACT: I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY QUANTUM-BANDS ARE. I LOST THEM WHEN KID REAPER *ACED* ME AND I WAS SENT TO THE *EONVERSE*.

FACT: I CAN'T *GO BACK* TO THE EONVERSE 'CAUSE I LOST *TRACK* OF WHERE IT IS WHEN I JUMPED OUT OF IT!

SO I CAN'T ASK *EON* WHERE MY Q-BANDS ARE...NOR CAN I ASK HER WHERE *EARTH* IS FROM HERE.

FACT: I *DO* HAVE THE *STAR BRAND*-- A TATTOO OF POWER FROM A UNIVERSE IMPOSSIBLY FAR FROM MY OWN--

--OR AT LEAST A *SMALL PORTION* OF IT.

SO *NOW* WHAT? WHAT OPTIONS ARE OPEN TO ME?

WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT WHAT THE STAR BRAND CAN DO. SO FAR, I'VE USED IT TO *FLY*, *WARP* THROUGH SPACE, *PROTECT* MY BODY FROM DAMAGE, AND BLOW OFF *STEAM*...

IF ONLY I COULD USE IT TO *SENSE ENERGY*, I COULD HUNT UP ANOTHER LIFE FORM... MAYBE EVEN A *WATCHER*... TRY TO GET DIRECTIONS FROM *THEM*.

I COULD MAKE RANDOM *WARP-HOPS* IN VARIOUS DIRECTIONS...BUT I'M NOT EVEN SURE I KNOW HOW TO MOVE IN A *STRAIGHT LINE!*

SEND OUT AN SOS AND HOPE SOMEONE WILL COME TO MY *RESCUE*?*HA!* BETTER CHANCE OF LIFE EVOLVING FROM *PIZZA* SOMEWHERE THAN *THAT* HAPPENING!

THINK, THINK, THINK!

I MUST BE ABLE TO DO *SOMETHING* WITH THIS CRAZY TATTOO!

I WONDER...

WHOA!

IT'S *GONE*... OR...

...DID IT *MOVE*?

OH, WOW!

I...I *SEE* THINGS I COULDN'T SEE BEFORE!

THAT STRANGE *PATTERN* I CAN ONLY SEE OUT OF MY RIGHT EYE. I THINK IT'S *ENERGY*--*MY* ENERGY-- THE *STAR BRAND TRAIL*.

IT BEGINS OR ENDS *HERE*. THAT MUST MEAN THAT I POPPED OUT OF THE *EONVERSE* IN THE EXACT SAME SPOT WHERE I WAS *NULLIFIED*...

DON'T SEE THE *MAGUS'S FUN FORTRESS* ANYWHERE. THE HEROES OF EARTH MUST'VE *DEFEATED* HIM AND *DESTROYED* IT OR SOMETHING.

IF MY THEORY'S RIGHT, THEN ALL I HAVE TO DO IS *RETRACE THE TRAIL* MY STAR BRAND LEFT HAULING ME HERE, AND I'LL FIND MY WAY BACK TO *EARTH*.

I THINK I MOVED THE STAR BRAND ONTO MY *EYE*!

LET'S DO IT!

MEANWHILE, HUNDREDS OF LIGHT YEARS AWAY ON QUASAR'S HOMEWORLD, A NATIVE OF AN EARTHLIKE DIMENSION MAKES HIMSELF VERY MUCH AT HOME...

CHOMP

YO, GORGEOUS. WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?

TRACI.

YOU PUT EXTRA SALT ON THOSE FRIES?

Y-YES, SIR.

DON'T CALL ME SIR. THAT'S A WORD I USE WHEN I MOCK PEOPLE. PUTTIN' ON AIRS. CALL ME QUAGMIRE. OR QUAGGY, OKAY?

COULD USE ANOTHER VANILLA SHAKE, WHEN YA GET A CHANCE.

OKAY.

YES, SIR--I MEAN, I--I'M SORRY.

SPEAKIN' A WHICH--

SPOOT

--DID I MENTION TO YA HOW FINE YER VANILLA SHAKES, TRACI DARLIN'?

HOW 'BOUT A LITTLE PUCKER?

S-SIR--I MEAN, QUAGMIRE. I'M--I'M ONLY SIXTEEN YEARS OLD.' I--

DON'T APOLOGIZE FER YER LACK OF EXPERIENCE. I'LL--

FREEZE! HANDS ON THE TABLE WHERE WE CAN *SEE* THEM!

AW, FRASS.

--I GOT SOMETHIN' IN MY *EAR!*

GONNA HAFTA *SPEAK UP*, GUYS--

WHAT THE--?

squitch

UP YA GO, SWEETMEAT.

OH!

Mmphphpt!

THAT'S *FAR ENOUGH!* HANDS ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD OR I *SHOOT!*

BETTER *SHOOT*, PAL. YA KNOW YA *WANT* TO.

WISE GUY! I WARNED YOU!

BLAM

HUH?

YOU INTO *BULLETS*, BADGE-MAN?

I GOT SOME BULLETS FOR YA!

BRRRASH

GUY CAN'T EAT A MEAL IN *PEACE* NOWADAYS.

MEANWHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GALAXY, THERE ARE THREE DENIZENS OF EARTH.

*THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE TEST TUBE BORN, COSMIC-ENERGY-HARNESSING-WOMAN-KNOWN AS **KISMET**...*

*...WHO HEADS TOWARD THE STAR SYSTEM'S FOURTH PLANET, **SCADAM**, THE SITE OF A RECENT INCURSION BY MARAUDING EXTRATERRESTRIALS...*

THERE IS A *POWER* HERE THAT HAS DONE WHAT *I* COULD NOT-- ROUTED THE ENTIRE FLEET OF *INVADERS*-- AND THAT POWER MUST BE SOMEWHERE ON THE PLANET *BELOW.*

BUT WHAT COULD IT *BE*? ONE OF THE *SCADAMITES*? IF SO, WHY DID IT WAIT UNTIL NINETY PERCENT OF THE PLANET'S BIOSPHERE WAS *DESTROYED*...

...UNTIL THE POPULATION WAS ALL BUT *EXTERMINATED*...

I *MUST* LEARN WHAT THIS POWER IS, NO MATTER *WHAT!*

UNKNOWN TO KISMET, ON THE PLANET BELOW, THERE ARE TWO OTHER CITIZENS OF EARTH...

...ONE OF WHOM IS THE PERSON SHE SEEKS.

KAYLA?

YOU OKAY? YOU HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING IN A WHILE...

SORRY, HOLLY. EVERY SO OFTEN I JUST--I JUST GET WRAPPED UP IN THE UNREALITY OF WHAT'S HAPPENED TO US.

MAYBE WE CAN SELL OUR STORY TO THE COMIC BOOKS, HUH?

HEY, LOOK OVER THERE! THIS REMIND YOU OF ANYPLACE?

NO.

REMINDS ME OF AN AIRPORT--OR SOME KIND OF MASS TRANSIT STAGING AREA.

CHECK THAT OUT, KAYLA.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S SUPPOSED TO FLY.

MAYBE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? THINK WE COULD GET IT IN THE AIR?

I NEVER EVEN GOT MY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

USING YOUR POWER?

YES, I COULD PROBABLY LIFT IT OFF THE GROUND, BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT WAS MEANT TO TRAVEL INTO SPACE!

AND EVEN IF IT COULD, HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH WAY IS EARTH?

OH, HOLLY... WE'RE--WE'RE NEVER GOING TO GET OFF THIS STUPID PLANET!

WE CAN'T GIVE UP HOPE. WE DO THAT AND WE'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.

THERE MUST BE A REASON WHY YOU GOT THAT INCREDIBLE POWER. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE THAT YOU'D GET IT JUST TO DIE ON SOME LOUSY EXCUSE FOR A PLANET.

YOU'RE RIGHT. SORRY.

ELSEWHERE...

NEARING THE END OF THE *TRAIL* AND I STILL DON'T --

WHOA!

YES! THAT'S THE *MOON!* BELOW IS *EARTH!* I MADE IT! I'M BACK!

THANK YOU, STARBRAND, *THANK YOU!*

AHHH, NOTHING SMELLS BETTER THAN GOOD OL' *EARTH AIR--POLLUTION,* OZONE HOLES AND ALL!

BETTER CHECK IN WITH THE *AVENGERS.* THEY PROBABLY THINK I GOT WIPED OUT IN THE *MAGUS WAR!*

HMH! MY *COMMUNICARD--* INTACT. I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT WITH ALL THE *WEIRD THINGS* MY BODY'S BEEN THROUGH--!

SEE IF IT *WORKS.*

QUASAR! YOU'RE ALIVE!?!

YEAH, *MS. ROMANOFF,* AS FAR AS I CAN TELL.

WHAT HAPPENED? THERE WAS THIS *KID* HERE CLAIMING THAT YOU--

IT'S A *LONG STORY,* MA'AM...

AFTER A BRIEF EXPLANATION...

I'LL DROP BY AND FILE A *FULL REPORT* LATER. RIGHT NOW I WANT TO CHECK IN ON "CIVILIAN" FRIENDS *KEN* AND *KAYLA...*

HMM, THEY *STILL* HAVEN'T REPAIRED THE ROOF OF *FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA.*

SOON, INSIDE...

MAN, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE KAYLA AGAIN. SHE'LL PROBABLY BE MAD THAT I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SAY GOODBYE TO HER LAST TIME I LEFT FOR SPACE...

BEEN SOME TIME SINCE I WORE REGULAR CLOTHES. FEELS WEIRD.

225

VAUGHN SECURITY CONSULTANT

NUH--?

MAY I HELP YOU, SIR?

UH, WHERE'S KAYLA?

YOU MEAN THE OLD RECEPTIONIST? SHE HASN'T WORKED HERE IN OVER A MONTH.

SHE... HASN'T...?!?

I DON'T RECOGNIZE YOU, SIR. ARE YOU ONE OF OUR CLIENTS?

NO... I'M YOUR BOSS.

?

OH, REALLY.

VAUGHN! YOU SONUVA--! I THOUGHT YOU'D--I WAS TOLD THAT YOU WERE--!

GREAT SEEING YOU, TOO, KEN.

IT'S REALLY YOU?!?

I HOPE SO.

COME ON, STEP INTO MY-- OUR OFFICE AND TELL ME EVERYTHING!

YEAH, BRENNA, THIS IS THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VAUGHN, FOUNDER OF THE COMPANY!

THAT GUY WITH THE PONYTAIL AND THE FUNNY TATTOO ON HIS EYE IS WENDELL VAUGHN? HE'S NOT THE STIFF I THOUGHT HE'D BE!

SO THIS KID-- THE BLUE MARVEL-- CAME HERE AND SAID YOU WERE DEAD!

I KNOW. ALMOST WAS, TOO, BUT YOU KNOW IT'S HARD TO KEEP A GOOD PROTECTOR OF THE UNIVERSE DOWN.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT BOY BLUE-- HE'S NOT OF THIS REALITY ANYMORE.

SO WHAT HAPPENED TO *KAYLA*?!

WELL, SHE--

--WHAT'S WITH YOUR *EYE*?

HUH?

IT'S A *WEIRD POWER SOURCE* THAT'S TAKING THE PLACE OF MY QUANTUM-BANDS.

...*TEMPORARILY*, I HOPE.

NOW THEN. *KAYLA*...?

SHE AND *HOLLY* LEFT HERE FIVE-SIX WEEKS AGO. THEY SAID THEY WERE DRIVING TO *DISNEYWORLD*.

I HAVEN'T HEARD A *PEEP* FROM EITHER OF THEM SINCE.

BLAST IT! IF I HAD *CHECKED* ON HER BEFORE I LEFT FOR SPACE, THIS MIGHT NOT HAVE *HAPPENED!*

VAUGHN, PLEASE USE THE *DOOR*, SO I DON'T HAVE TO *EXPLAIN* HOW YOU GOT *OUT OF THIS ROOM*.

OH, *OKAY*.

THE PLANET SCADAM...

AHA! HERE'S ONE OF THE *INVADERS' SHIPS* THAT *CRASHED* TO THE PLANET RATHER THAN BEING BLOWN INTO *SPACE!*

PERHAPS I CAN PICK UP SOME--

ODD. OUTSIDE THE USUAL ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM. CAN'T *IDENTIFY* THE ENERGY RESIDUE.

BUT I *WILL* RECOGNIZE IT IF I FEEL IT *AGAIN!*

ELSEWHERE ON SCADAM...

THAT'S IT, KAYLA! WE'RE OFF THE GROUND!

HOW'S IT FEEL?

A BIT STRANGE. I'M NOT HOLDING ONTO ANYTHING, BUT I'M STILL LIFTING THIS AIRCRAFT INTO THE AIR.

GUESS ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TOUCH SOMETHING AND YOU CAN MAKE IT FLY LIKE YOU.

I KNOW THIS SHIP WON'T GET US OFF THIS PLANET, BUT I SURE PREFER TRAVELING LIKE THIS--

--THAN HAVING YOU FLY ME AROUND LIKE WE'RE PETER PAN AND WENDY. IT FEELS SAFER SOMEHOW.

BACK ON EARTH...

LAST TIME I DROPPED BY TO SEE KAYLA'S FAMILY, HER DAD SLAMMED THE DOOR IN MY FACE.

SEES ME AS A CORRUPTING INFLUENCE ON HER APPARENTLY.

WELL I'M GOING TO MAKE HIM TALK TO ME THIS TIME.

SLAM

BUT, SIR, AREN'T YOU THE LEAST BIT--!

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D JUST WRITE OFF HIS DAUGHTER LIKE HE'S DONE!

AMAZING KAYLA'S SUCH A LEVEL-HEADED WOMAN. HAVING HAD TO GROW UP WITH HIM AROUND.

WOULDN'T EVEN TELL ME IF ANYONE ELSE IN HIS FAMILY'S HEARD FROM HER.

HEY. YOU A COP OR A FRIEND OF KAYLA'S?

A FRIEND. WHO ARE YOU?

I'M HER BROTHER, DEVON.

THOUGHT YOU WAS A COP COME TO TELL US SOMETHIN' BAD HAPPENED TO KAY.

I'M WENDELL VAUGHN. SHE WORKED FOR ME. WHEN'S THE LAST YOU HEARD FROM HER?

ABOUT THE SAME.

SIX WEEKS AGO THIS FRIDAY. YOU?

SAID SHE WAS GOIN' TO DISNEYWORLD WITH THIS CHICK SHE WORKED WITH.

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT I WAS TOLD.

I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HER.

SO AM I. DEVON. SO AM I.

I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I LEARN ANYTHING.

AND... THANKS, PEGGY!* AND THANK AVIS RENT-A-CAR FOR KEEPING GOOD RECORDS. QUASAR OUT.

OKAY, SO A CAR RENTED TO HOLLY STECKLEY WAS FOUND ABANDONED BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA FIVE WEEKS AGO... THAT'S A START.

*THE AVENGERS' COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.--OPEN MIKE

SOON, AT THE SITE IN QUESTION...

THE CAR WAS TOWED AWAY WEEKS AGO, BUT STILL MAYBE I CAN FIND SOME SORT OF CLUE TO WHAT THEY DID AFTER LEAVING THE CAR...

HMMM. LIKE LOOKING FOR THE PROVERBIAL NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK WHEN YOU'RE NOT EVEN SURE THE NEEDLE'S THERE.

LET ME SHUT MY LEFT EYE AND FOCUS ON MY STAR-BRAND VISION.

HEY. WHAT'S THAT?

THIS ISN'T MUD OR TAR. IT FEELS LIKE THAT DARK FORCE STUFF I ONCE HAD THROWN AT ME BY WHAT DID HE CALL HIMSELF? QUAGMIRE!*

*WAY BACK IN MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #29.--MIKE AGAIN

COINCIDENCE? OR DID HE HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH KAYLA'S DISAPPEARANCE?

LET ME CALL PEGGY, SEE IF HE'S STILL LOCKED UP OR WHAT.

ELSEWHERE...

SPDOOOSH

IT'S EXPLODING!

FALL BACK!

C'MON, SWEETUMS, YOU'N' ME ARE GOIN' MURK SURFIN'!

NO, PLEASE-- AIIIEH!

WHAT THE--?

GAHHHH!

RELAX, MISS. YOU'RE SAFE NOW.

WH-WHO--?

NAME'S QUASAR. IT'S A GOOD THING MY INFORMATION NETWORK MONITORS UNUSUAL POLICE REPORTS, HUH?

WHO THE %"&* IS THAT? THAT QUASAR PUNK WHO THREW ME IN THE VAULT?

YEAH, LOOKS LIKE. AM I EVER GLAD TO SEE YOU, FRASS-FACE! WE GOT OURSELVES SOME UNFINISHED BEES' WAX!

STAY DOWN, MISS.

HE'S SO...SO FILTHY!

OKAY, QUAGMIRE-- *FUN'S OVER!*

IT'S HIGH TIME SOMEBODY CLEANED UP YOUR *ACT!*

WANT TO ASK HIM ABOUT *KAYLA* BUT FIRST I'VE GOT TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM *DROWNING* IN HIS *MUCK!*

OOOOLK.

OKAY, MUDSLINGER, MAKE THIS CRUD *DISAPPEAR* OR YOU'RE GOING TO BE EATING *ADAM'S APPLE PIE!*

FRASS ON YOU!

WOUKK!

LOST MY GRIP WHEN THAT *SLIME* SHOT OUT OF HIS THROAT--

--*SPLATTERING* ME--CAN'T KEEP MY *EYES* OPEN--

--HE'S *HOSING* ME WITH THE STUFF!

THERE. *NOW* I CAN STAND TA *LOOK* AT YOU *UUK!*

STILL TRYIN' TA *CHOKE* ME, HAH?

OOOLCH!

SPOOMCH

RELEASE ME, SLIMEBALL, OR YOU'RE GOING TO SMOTHER ALONG WITH ME.

YOU WISH.

I CAN BREATHE THIS STUFF, TOUGH GUY.

NOW LET'S REALLY GET DOWN AND DIRTY!

SPLURG

SPLOOPPP

BRRRRRRBRRRRRRR

SPLOOM

WHUUUUGH!

CONCUSSIVE LITTLE CUSS, AREN'T I?

UNNGK!

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE!

MAKE THIS CRUD VANISH-- NOW!

WUDD

UHH!

THE PLANET SCADAM...

HOW YOU DOING, KAYLA?

FINE. THIS ISN'T ANY MORE DIFFICULT THAN *FLYING*.

LOOK, IF WE CAN'T FIND A *SPACEPORT* WITH AN INTACT STARSHIP IN, SAY, A DAY--

--THEN CAN WE GO BACK TO WHERE WE SAW THE *BLACK PORTAL** AND GIVE IT A TRY?

WELL... OKAY. *MAYBE*.

**SEE LAST ISSUE.*--MIKE

HEY! WHAT *HAPPENED*? IT GOT *DARK* ALL OF A SUDDEN!

IT'S LIKE A *BIG CLOUD* SUDDENLY BLOCKED THE SUN. LET ME CHECK THE *REAR WINDOW*.

I DON'T LIKE THE *LOOKS* OF THIS.

NEARBY...

THE ANOMALOUS *ENERGY SIGNATURE* IS STRAIGHT AHEAD.

IN ANOTHER FEW *MOMENTS*, I SHALL HAVE THE *ANSWER*. I WILL KNOW THE *NATURE* OF THE INCREDIBLE *POWER SOURCE* WHICH REPULSED THE INVADING FLEET!

WHAT IS THAT-- AN *ALIEN CRAFT*?

WHERE *IS* THE POWER SOURCE? IN THE *ALIEN SPHERE* OR IN THAT TINY *SHUTTLE SHIP*?

KAYLA--WE'RE BEING PULLED *UPWARD* TOWARD SOME SORT OF *FLOATING BALL*-- DO SOMETHING! *DO SOMETHING!*

EARTH.

KNOW SOMETHIN', *MUDPIE?* I SURE DIDN'T *THINK* MUCH A'YA WHEN YOU WUZ *ITTY BITTY* AN' POKIN' ME IN THE EYE AN' STUFF--

--BUT SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HANGIN' OUT INSIDE MY *B'WITCHIN'* *BOD*--

--AN' FEEDIN' OFF MY *MURK*, YER GETTIN' TA BE *DOWNRIGHT AWRIGHT.*

SUCKER-PUNCHED THE BOY SCOUT HERE *GOOD.*

PUM

BUT HE'S *STILL* TRYIN' TA SHAKE IT OFF.

UHHGGK!

SHAKE THIS BOOTIE!

CREEP'S TOO *DANGEROUS* TA LET BREATHE.

LET'S STOMP 'IM INTA *JELLY!*

THOOK THOOK

OKAY, QUAG--*EXPERIMENT TIME*. I'M GOING TO DROP YOU ON YOUR *HEAD* AND SEE IF THAT MAKES THE *BLACK GOO* DISAPPEAR!

SOUND *FAIR?*

SQUEEGE

HUH?

HOW--?

VNOOM

YOU, I HAVE NO TIME FOR!

NOW, WHILE YOU'RE GETTING READY TO GET *DROPPED*, TELL ME SOMETHING--

--A FEW WEEKS BACK YOU MET *TWO WOMEN* IN A CAR. WHAT DID YOU *DO* WITH THEM?

ULLL...

GO...

FRASS...

YERSELF...!

DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO GET AWAY WITHOUT *TELLING ME* EVERYTHING I *WANT TO KNOW*, QUAG.

FWASH

QUAG?

WHAT *HAPPENED* TO HIM? AS SOON AS I LET GO, THERE WAS A BURST OF *LIGHT*--

--I DIDN'T DO THAT, DID I?

EVEN WITH MY *STARBRAND VISION*, I CAN'T *SEE* HIM ANYWHERE!

WHAT THE HECK *HAPPENED*?!?

UH-OH! THE *ANTIBODY* I BLEW AWAY...

...HE'S GETTING *BIGGER*! SEEMS TO BE SUCKING UP ALL THAT *BLACK GLOP* FROM ALL OVER THE PLACE--!

NOT JUST BIGGER, BUT A *WHOLE LOT* BIGGER!

SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS GOING TO BE *WORSE* THAN TUSSLING WITH *QUAGMIRE*!

TO LEARN QUASAR'S WHEREABOUTS, CHECK OUT NEW WARRIORS #32 ON SALE SOON!

NEXT ISSUE: *THE GIANT BODY IS ONLY ONE-THIRD OF QUASAR'S PROBLEMS! WHO ARE THE OTHER TWO? FIND OUT IN*

BATTLEGROUND EARTH!

QUORUM

MIKE ROCKWITZ: EDITOR BARRY DUTTER: ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Marvel,

I guess this is your basic all around fan letter. I'm just writing to say I regularly buy QUASAR and CAPTAIN AMERICA and I'm constantly impressed with the quality of Mark Gruenwald's writing. Every month I wait impatiently for the new QUASAR to come out. The title character intrigues me, and I just figured out why (said insight being the catalyst for my writing). Let's compare Quasar to Captain Marvel, the previous Protector of the Universe. When written well, Mar-Vell came off as a man born to power and greatness who nonetheless found within himself a striking humanity. Quasar, on the other hand, comes across as an incredibly down-to-earth person, feet firmly planted in humanity and human perceptions, who regularly manages to find great power within himself. Captain Marvel came from the stars down to us on Earth; Quasar is one of us who made it to the stars. This essential humanness of W.E. Vaughn's permeates every issue, whether he's trying to convince someone he can wield the Star Brand properly, or whether he's communicating with the souls of the Kree dead. It's a joy to read. Also, I like Makkari, Kismet, Kayla, Shemp the Antibody, and even Ms. Steckley (the same one who arranged the press conference where Cap inaugurated the Stars and Stripes phone line?).

I also like your habit of reviving old characters. The Marvel Universe already has a lot of material to work with so why not make the most of what's there?

Keep up the good work, hear?

Lou DuChez
78 E. Bridge St. #45
Berea, OH 44017

Sure, Lou. And thanks for the astute character analysis. We couldn't have said it better ourselves.

Dear Quasters,

I'm mad! Quasar is the most important hero in the Marvel Universe, but he isn't being treated that way! Sure, Spider-Man, Captain America, and the Hulk are better known, even to non-comics readers. But Quasar is the Protector of the Universe! Do you think Spider-Man or Captain America could handle that job? As you can tell, Quasar is my favorite hero in the Marvel Universe, but he has no action figure, no poster, no T-shirt, or no other titles. I think it's about time he gets those neato things, don"t you?

I have been reading QUASAR since issue #26 and it keeps getting better with every issue. I would like to see Quasar up against Galactus and his new herald. Keep Quasar in space, whatever you do--he belongs there! Keep up the wonderful work!

Ricky Key
348 Stokes Ave.
Marietta, GA 30060

Well, all right, Ricky, if you insist. Believe us, we wish we had some Quasar product out there, too. Unfortunately, we're not the folks who decides which stuff gets made. Hey, we did get a Q-ball trading card at least!

Dear Marvel,

I have to say that ever since I picked up my first issue of QUASAR I've been hooked. Of the many Marvel titles I collect, QUASAR is easily my favorite. Issue #38 was incredible. Ever since Captain Atlas mentioned back in issue #10 that the quantum bands were on the same power level as the Infinity Gems, I've been waiting for a fight. Quasar going up against Adam Warlock was perfect. I also liked the way you cast Quasar as the peacekeeper in this story, but I think he could have done a better job. He *is* one of the most powerful heroes there, after all. As for Kayla, I can't wait to see what her power really is. Her is in for some heavy competition now.

On the subject of back issues, I noticed a few things that need clearing up. In issue #26, Thanos states that the Stygian Starbender was Eon's first cosmic champion, but in issue #3 Gilbert Vaughn says that Glakandar was. My guess is that Glakandar was Eon's first champion but the Starbender was the first champion to wear the quantum-bands.

Now I have a few questions and a few requests:

1) Until issue #31, I'd never read anything of the New Universe. What are the powers of that little Antibody and how can it survive outside of its own multiverse? 2) Why doesn't Quasar get cosmic awareness permanently? His predecessor Captain Marvel had it. Then he wouldn't have to bug Epoch all the time. 3) I love Quasar's quantum armor. I hope he uses it more often. 4) It would be nice if that cosmic entity in the embryonic sac remembers Quasar when it grows up. 5) It seems like you've been doing all your stories in two issues lately. I like that. It allows you to go into more detail than in one issue storylines. 6) Now that Quasar has been in the Dimension of Manifestations, will he be able to get there by himself or will he need someone like the Contemplator to guide him there? 7) In issue #27, Quasar never destroyed Marvel Boy like he did the other three fake Quantum Banders. Will Marvel Boy ever show up again?

Well, that's all I can think of right now, so keep up the incredible work!

Erik Plingsten
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Thanks for the raves, Erik. Seems like this is the month that all of Quasar's number one fans are heard from. Your ingenious explanation for the seeming Styge/Glak discrepancy needn't have been so ingenious. Both are names for the same guy even as Quasar and Wendell Vaughn are names for the same guy. As for your litany of points: 1. You'll learn lots more about the Antibody in the current storyline. 2. We kinda think that cosmic awareness would warp Quasar's human perspective and make him less relatable. 3. He will, provided he ever gets his q-bands back. 4. She will. 5. Stories run as long as they need to. 6. The quantum-bands have the power to take Q there as long as he knows where to go. 7. You must have enjoyed our last few issues, huh?

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